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205

SIXTH ANNUAL  
**BULB**  
CATALOGUE  
FOR DEALERS



—VELTHEIMIA VIRIDIFOLIA—

1939  
Las Positas Nursery  
P. O. Box 750  
Santa Barbara, California



## FOREWORD

For several years we have been collecting and testing *scarce and little known bulbous plants from both hemispheres and from every continent* and have sent out to the trade a selected list of those varieties which we were willing to offer on their merits. The lists have been received with interest and the material delivered in response to orders has aroused favorable comment. We are therefore handing you this, our sixth list, *which contains several new items*, with greater confidence in our unusual and attractive stock than we have felt before.

All of our bulbs have been grown under ideal soil and climatic conditions and have received careful and expert cultivation. We have grown our own stock and *nothing is offered that has not been under our own observation for several years*.

Wherever our flowers have been exhibited their novelty and beauty have so interested the public that a rapidly increasing demand for our material has been aroused among garden lovers.

In reading our suggestions as to culture, use, hardiness, etc., it should be remembered that, unless otherwise definitely stated, we refer to climatic conditions similar to those of Southern California.

This year, as heretofore, our stock of some varieties is very limited. The demand for a number of items has increased more rapidly than our stock and in consequence we are obliged to withdraw them entirely from the market this year. *As to some other items our available stock will doubtless, as in previous years, be inadequate to supply the demand, so we suggest booking your orders as early as possible*. We will gladly furnish any additional information you may wish to assist you in presenting these bulbs to your customers.

It is our policy to offer bulbs at a price that is consistent with the cost of producing them. We have tried to price our material fairly. In case, however, our prices are thought to be out of line in any instance, we should be glad to be advised and given an opportunity to meet the market price.



Bulbs will be ready for delivery about August first, unless otherwise stated, and will be shipped at buyer's sole risk.

*As we do no retail business, prices quoted herein are for dealers only, F. O. B., Santa Barbara, and are payable 90 days after delivery to the carrier for shipment. Thereafter interest will be chargeable at 6%. We give 50 bulbs at the 100 rate and 500 at the 1000 rate.*

While we use great care to ensure that we describe and name our material correctly and to see that only material of the best quality is sent out in response to orders, we give no warranty, express or implied, as to description, quality, productiveness or any other matter of any seeds, bulbs, or plants we send out, and we will not be in any way responsible for the crop. We quote subject to immediate acceptance, stocks unsold, confirmation of orders, stenographic errors and omissions, delays and contingencies beyond our control.

As a result of our constant search for methods that will enable us to increase our stock faster and at less cost, WE ARE GLAD TO LIST SEVERAL ITEMS THIS YEAR AT PRICES SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN EVER BEFORE.



ALSTROMERIA—PELEGRINA ALBA

## ALSTROMERIA

Plants from South America, useful for cutting and attractive in the garden; belonging to the Am-aryllis family and characterized by masses of thickish or tuberous roots attached to a crown from which arise leafy stems bearing clusters of interesting and colorful flowers. Most varieties bloom in the spring and flourish out of doors in mild climates. Indoors they grow readily in pots or pans. They do best in partial shade in a sandy loam with plenty of humus. Good drainage is essential. As the thick fleshy roots are easily damaged in lifting, it is best to leave the plants undisturbed as long as possible after they are once established. After flowering in the spring, water should be gradually withdrawn as the plant ripens and very little given until growth starts again in the fall.

### A. chilensis

Very pretty Chilean species blooming in late spring. Flowers in pleasing shades from very light pink to orange, 1 inch across in a large umbel on stems 2 to 4 feet tall. Very good in the border and as a cut flower.

\$10.00 per 100

### **A. pulchella**

Very vigorous species from Brazil blooming in early summer. Large clusters of dark red flowers tipped with green and with brown spots inside. Stems 2 to 6 feet tall. Its vigor and unusual color make a striking addition to the garden.

\$10.00 per 100

### **A. pelegrina**

Called "Lily of the Incas." Flowers dark rose with the inner petals heavily spotted with reddish purple, 1 to 1¼ inches across, in a large umbel on 14 to 18 inch stems. Very vigorous and showy both as a cut flower and in the border.

\$8.00 per 100

\$75.00 per 1000

### **A. pelegrina alba**

"White Lily of the Incas." Very beautiful form of A. pelegrina with white unspotted flowers.

\$8.00 per 100

\$75.00 per 1000

## **BABIANA**

Spring flowering Cape bulbs needing the same culture as freesias. Very interesting, attractive and useful in pots, edgings or rock gardens.

### **B. hybrids**

Fine mixture of various shades of red, blue and pink. Bloom over a long period. Stem 6 to 12 inches.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

### **B. plicata**

Large wide-open flowers with an interesting color combination of cream and lavender. Blooms early, is low growing and has a strong, pleasant freesia-like fragrance.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

### **B. rubro-cyanea**

Flowers blue with bright red centers.

\$3.50 per 50

\$5.00 per 100

### **B. sulphurea**

Low growing cream and yellow flowers with bright blue stamens. Blooms early and has a strong spicy fragrance.

\$3.50 per 50

\$5.00 per 100





BLETILLA HYACINTHINA

## BLETILLA

Terrestrial orchid from China and Japan. Easily grown in ordinary garden soil with plenty of moisture. Prefers half shade. Blooms in spring. *Hardy under all conditions.* Delivery late fall.

### **B. hyacinthina**

Bright green plaited leaves 1 to 2 inches wide, 12 to 15 inches high. Three to five dainty orchid shaped lavender flowers on stems 10 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well.

Each 35c

\$15.00 per 50

### **B. hyacinthina alba**

Similar to B. hyacinthina except slightly smaller. Has bright clear white flowers.

Each 50c

\$20.00 per 50

## BRODIAEA

Bulbs native to the Pacific coast, producing one or two long slender leaves near the ground and slender stiff stems bearing a head of attractive flowers of great lasting quality when cut. *All are hardy under most conditions,* naturalize easily in any well drained soil and are also very useful and

easy to grow under glass when given the same treatment as freesias. All should be dried out and rested after flowering. OUR BULBS GROWN UNDER IDEAL CULTURAL CONDITIONS ARE SUPERIOR TO COLLECTED WILD BULBS.



BRODIAEA CAPITATA

**B. capitata**

Called California Hyacinth. Slender stems 12 to 18 in. high terminate in a close cluster of violet-blue flowers. In mild climates flowers in October, six weeks after planting, and remains in bloom till March or April, producing as many as 20 flower stems from one bulb. Especially desirable in the garden and under glass. Those who know it only as a wild flower will hardly recognize it under cultivation so greatly does it improve in the size and profusion of its bloom.

\$3.00 per 100

\$20.00 per 1000

**B. ixioides**

Known in California as Golden Star. Blooms in spring. Stem about 12 inches tall. Large umbel of bright yellow flowers with darker line on outside of petal. Gay and cheerful in the garden. Does well under glass.

3.00 per 100                      \$20.00 per 1000

**B. ixiodes var.**

Similar to B. ixiodes except flowers are a lighter shade of yellow and bloom three to four weeks earlier. Very desirable.

\$3.00 per 100                      \$20.00 per 1000

**B. laxa**

"Ithuriel's spear." Large cluster or umbel of bluish violet flowers on a two-foot stem. General appearance comparable to an Agapanthus flower. Blooms in spring. Likes partial shade.

\$6.00 per 100                      \$40.00 per 1000

**CHLIDANTHUS FRAGRANS**

Bright yellow trumpet shaped flowers on stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well. Strong, pleasant fragrance. Bulbs must be kept dry in fall and winter. Prefers full sun in any garden soil. Blooms in early summer. Delivery late fall.

\$5.00 per 50                      \$9.00 per 100

**CYRTANTHUS**

Interesting and colorful group of Cape bulbs belonging to Amaryllis family. Blooms late winter and spring. Foliage nearly evergreen. Useful for rock gardens, borders and pot culture. Does best after becoming established and makes fine clumps if left undisturbed several years.

**C. lutescens**

Bright yellow tubular slightly funnel-shaped flowers two inches long on 12 to 14 inch stems. Six or eight narrow, bright green leaves about a foot long. Whole plant attractive and charming. Flowers useful for cutting.

\$10.00 per 100

**C. Mackenii**

Similar to C. lutescens except whole plant is a little stronger and flowers a clear ivory white.

\$10.00 per 100

**GALTONIA CANDICANS**

Cape bulb, commonly called Giant Summer Hyacinth. Produces a strong, erect stem rising four feet or more from the center of the foliage in summer and bearing at the top a splendid raceme of twenty or more large drooping pure white bell-shaped flowers. Extremely effective in groups in the perennial border. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery late fall until early summer.

\$4.00 per 100                      \$35.00 per 1000



## GLADIOLUS SPECIES

There are over one hundred species of gladiolus the beauty, grace and usefulness of many of which have long been overlooked. We are now offering one of these species and will have others as soon as sufficient stock can be developed. Of the present offerings the culture is the same as for freesias.

### **G. alatus**

Interesting terra-cotta colored flowers with green lower segments. Spring blooming on stems 6 to 12 inches tall. Called "Little Roosters" in S. Africa because of their jaunty form. Desirable in rock gardens and pots.

\$3.50 per 50

\$6.00 per 100

## GLADIOLUS TRISTIS HYBRIDS

A decided improvement on G. tristis var. concolor. Flowers resemble them but slightly larger and many nearly white. Has the same pleasant spicy fragrance at night or when placed in a darkened room. Stem 15 inches to 3 feet tall. Blooms earlier than G. tristis var. concolor. Very desirable for cutting and forcing.

\$6.00 per 100

\$50.00 per 1000



GLADIOLUS TRISTIS HYBRIDS





HABRANTHUS ROBUSTUS

## HABRANTHUS ROBUSTUS

(*Zephyranthes robusta*)

Large bright pink flowers appearing in late summer on 6 to 10 inch stems. Foliage during winter and spring. The flowers are large enough and stems long enough to be very useful for cutting. Its adaptability to culture in pots, rock gardens and borders makes it a very useful member of a well known group.

\$4.00 per 100

\$35.00 per 1000

## HAEMANTHUS COCCINEUS

"Blood flower." One of a large group of tropical and sub-tropical bulbs of the Amaryllis family all of which are interesting and curious and some very showy. This variety has two bright green opposite leaves 3 to 5 inches wide and one to two feet long lying flat on the ground, growing in the winter. The single bright red flower appears in the fall before the leaves. It is a large cluster or umbel 2 to 4 inches across composed of many small flowers closely placed. Stem 6 to 9 inches high, green heavily spotted with red. General appearance striking and curious.

50c each



IXIA BLOEM ERF

## IXIA

Recent introductions from South Africa with much better form and habit of growth are a fine addition to this group, of which some of the less desirable varieties have been available for many years.

These new kinds have the same cultural requirements as the older forms but are so superior that they will hardly be recognized as ixias and are sure to earn recognition when known.

### I. Bloem Erf

Recently introduced hybrid from S. Africa, quite different from other ixias. Blooms in late spring. *Wiry stems 4 to 5 feet tall with 20 to 40 open flowers in a raceme at the top with several smaller flowering branches below.* Color varies from pure white through shades of pink overlaid with a bluish tinge. Excellent for cutting.

\$3.00 per 100

\$25.00 per 1000



## I. *incarnata*

A distinct novelty recently introduced from S. Africa. Light blue, bell-shaped flowers on slender stems 18 to 24 inches tall. *Flowers do not close at night like other ixias.* Has a strong, very pleasant, freesia-like fragrance. Blooms early in Santa Barbara and cuts well.

6.00 per 100

\$50.00 per 1000

## LACHENALIA

Cape bulb new to this country but long known in England under the name of Cape Cowslip. These bulbs are especially useful for florists' work as they can be grown in flats or in the field and shifted into pots or baskets when in full bloom. All of them do well out of doors in milder climates and are showy in beds, borders, and rock gardens and all are easily grown under glass. Culture similar to freesias.

Large flowered forms have been hybridized. They have from one to two dozen generally pendulous, fire-cracker-like flowers, three-quarters to one inch in length on stems 6 to 9 inches and bloom from late November to February depending on the time of planting and the variety.



LACHENALIA PENDULA SUPERBA

Small flowered forms have not been hybridized. The flowers are small and loosely borne in a tapering spike 8 to 12 inches high, and do not droop. Stamens and style in some varieties extend beyond the mouth of the flower.

***Large flowered type***

**L. Ada Bryson**

Flowers orange yellow, buds and end of spikes reddish. Blooms last of December. Leaves covered with reddish spots. Very bright and attractive. Especially useful for Christmas trade.

\$15.00 per 100

**L. pendula superba**

Flowers brilliant coral red tipped green and purple. Two or three tulip-like green leaves. One of the best and earliest. Excellent for florist use as a Christmas plant.

\$11.00 per 100

\$100.00 per 1000

**L. Rector of Cawston**

Flowers scarlet, citron and green; free blooming. Two or three strap-shaped leaves with red spots.

\$6.00 per 100

**L. tubiflora**

Flowers creamy white, bluish at the base tipped with purple standing nearly upright on a 6 to 12 inch spike. Stem green mottled with purple. One green leaf.

\$6.00 per 100

***Small flowered type***

**L. Beckmannii**

Flowers white tipped with russet, short and tubular in shape. Stem slender and erect; two slender green leaves 10 to 12 inches long.

\$6.00 per 100

**L. liliiflora**

Flowers creamy white, tips flaring, tinged with green, set thickly on 6 to 12 inch spike. Yellow stamens prominent. Stem green, two green leaves covered with blisters.

\$6.00 per 100

**L. mutabilis**

Flowers urn-shaped, metallic blue, shading to violet tipped with yellow and brown. Stems 12 to 15 inches, green, shading in the upper half to bright violet blue. One green leaf.

\$6.00 per 100



## LEUCOCORYNE IXIODES ODORATA

“Glory of the Sun.” Recent introduction from Chile; flowering in spring. Heads of large, fragrant flowers, blue with white center and golden stamens, carried gracefully on a wiry stem 12 to 18 inches tall. Requires same culture as freesias. Its beauty and long lasting qualities as a cut flower and its ease of culture make it an outstanding new plant.

Extra large	\$8.00 per 100	\$70.00 per 1000
No. 1	\$6.00 per 100	\$50.00 per 1000
No. 2	\$4.50 per 100	\$35.00 per 1000

## LYCORIS RADIATA

Native of Japan and China. Blooms in fall before leaves appear. Bright red funnel-shaped flowers with wavy segments, somewhat like nerines. Stems 12 to 18 inches tall. Free blooming and easily grown. May be left undisturbed for several years in milder climates when it will make fine showy clumps. Should be kept dry in summer.

\$7.00 per 100	\$60.00 per 1000
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## LYCORIS SQUAMIGERA

Native of China and Japan. Originally introduced into United States as *Amaryllis Hallii*. Large rosy-lilac flowers on stems 2 to 3 feet high in late summer. Foliage appears in spring, dies in early summer. Hardy under most conditions. Unusually good for naturalizing. Can be left undisturbed for years. Good for cutting. Delivery in fall.

\$25.00 per 50	\$40.00 per 100
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## MILLA BIFLORA

New introduction from Mexico where it is called Estrellitas, or Little Stars, by the country people. Showy white flowers, opening out flat, waxy in texture, about two inches in diameter, with six petals not quite separated. A faint stripe of soft apple green runs from tip to base on the outside of each petal. The stems are wiry, 12 to 18 inches tall, bearing two to seven flowers each. Foliage inconspicuous. Very free blooming from July to September. Flowers cut well and have a pleasant lily-like fragrance. Most attractive both in arrangements and in the garden. The striking hexagonal shape of bud and flower and the regular striping lend a faintly modernistic note that is both attractive and unusual. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery early winter.

\$5.00 per 100	\$45.00 per 1000
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MILLA BIFLORA

## **MORAEA** (bulbous)

An interesting group most of which are natives of South Africa, many being new to cultivation. Some are useful for cutting, others for the perennial garden and others still for pot culture and rock gardens. All listed below flower in spring. They show a wide range of colors and vary in height from six inches to three feet. On most of them the foliage is not important. Same culture as for freesias.

### **M. glaucopis** (Iris pavonia)

Often called Peacock Iris. Flowers white or light blue with peacock eye at base of outer segments. Stems 10 to 15 inches high. Excellent for cutting, forcing, rock gardens and pots.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000





MORAEA GLAUCOPIS

### **M. polystachya**

New introduction. Slender plant 18 to 24 inches high with many wiry branches. Well covered with flowers looking at a distance like a close group of butterflies. The outer segments of the flowers are light mauve, penciled with Parma violet, with a bright yellow spot at the base, inner segments light mauve with little penciling. Starts flowering six week after planting and keeps on three to four months. Blooms can be had throughout the year in the milder climates by making successive plantings about every two months.

Very useful in the colder climates as a window pot plant in the winter and out of doors in the spring and summer as soon as danger of heavy frosts is over.

Planted in clumps it provides a mass of color over a long period and should be very useful

in the border especially as a supplementary plant in iris gardens. Corms can be held in cold storage at 40 degrees to make successive plantings over a long period. Delivery August and February.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000



MORAEA POLYSTACHYA

**M. isopetala**

New introduction. Slender well branched plant 6 to 8 inches high. Flowers similar to *M. polystachya* but lavender in color. Most useful in pots and rock gardens.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

**M. ramosa**

New introduction from South Africa. Stream-side plant which likes plenty of water and does not require a long dry rest period like many other bulbous plants. Blooms May and June. Flowers are an amber yellow and have a yellow oval surrounded by dark blue at base of the falls. Also has dark spots in the claw.



Blossoms are about 2½ inches in diameter and resemble those of *M. polystachya* except in color.

Flower stalk is 4 to 6 feet high with many branches. Branchlets are thin and wiry enough to be almost invisible and the flowers look like yellow butterflies among the green branches of the flower stem. Individual blossoms open about 11 A.M. on a sunny morning and last twenty-four hours with a new group opening each day. Green leaves at the base are not conspicuous. Flowers cut well and make a dainty arrangement in themselves, with new flowers opening daily for a week or two after being cut. Plants are large enough to make bold accents in the border without crowding smaller plants and are a distinct addition to the garden. Delivery early summer.

\$10.00 per 100



MORAEA RAMOSA

## NERINE

Very striking group of plants from South Africa belonging to the Amaryllis family. All bloom in late summer or fall, some with the foliage, others before it appears. All are easily grown indoors in pots, but can be grown in the open only in climates nearly free from frost.

They do best in a rich sandy loam with plenty of humus. Water should be applied sparingly when growth starts and heavily after foliage is well developed. Gradually withdraw water when leaves begin to turn yellow. Should be kept DRY and WARM after foliage dies until growth starts again. Blooms best if kept cool at night and given plenty of light and air during day. Flowers are fine for cutting. Bulbs should be covered only to the neck and can be left in the pot for several years. Best to remove old soil to bottom of bulb and add fresh each year about time growth starts. Good drainage essential.



NERINE BOWDENI

### **N. Bowdeni**

Blooms in fall. Flowers large, pink with rose-colored line down each petal, 7 to 10 in an umbel on 12 to 15 inch stem. Leaves are bright green and very attractive,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide and 12 to 18 inches long, start in early spring and last until late winter. Delivery late winter

50c each

## **N. filifolia**

Fall blooming with evergreen thread-like leaves 6 to 8 inches long. Flowers dark pink with narrow wavy segments, pistil and stamens longer than segments, borne six to ten in an umbel on wiry stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Fine for cutting and a real find for rock gardens and edgings for beds. Delivery January to May.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

## **N. rosea crispa**

Hybrid blooming before foliage reaches full growth and is especially desirable because its late flowering habit prolongs the season. Flowers similar to *N. filifolia* except a larger appearing head, a little lighter in color and petals twisted more, 12 to 18 in an umbel on a stem 15 to 18 inches tall. Foliage starts in fall about the time buds appear and dies in spring. Delivery early summer.

25c each

## **PASITHEA CAERULEA**

An exceptionally pretty plant recently introduced from Chile. Many very bright deep blue flowers one inch in diameter and with yellow stamens on a 3 to 5 foot stem with many small branches.

Green foliage not very conspicuous. Flowers retain their color for several days after closing. Blooms from late winter to late spring in Santa Barbara. Very useful in the garden and as a cut flower.

Should be planted where it can remain undisturbed. Plant consists of a modified crown and small round tubers joined together and to the crown by very thin, fibrous roots. New and old plants should be started in early fall and kept well watered until late in spring. Must be thoroughly dried out during the summer. Does best in well-drained loam soil. Requires very little fertilizer.

Can also be grown in large pots under glass, but **MUST BE KEPT AT 45 to 50 DEGREES AT NIGHT**. Small dormant plants for delivery in late summer. Supply limited this year.

\$10.00 per 100





SCHIZOSTYLIS MRS. HEGERTY

## SCHIZOSTYLIS

Kaffir Lily from S. Africa. Rhizomatous roots. Not hardy but soon makes fine clumps in milder climates, blooming in late summer and fall. May be lifted and potted in late summer and, by retarding, flowers may be had over a long period. Likes partial shade and plenty of moisture during the summer. Cuts well. Delivery February to May.

### S. *coccinea*

A handsome plant with bright green leaves 15 to 20 inches high and 2 ft. spikes with 8 to 10 crimson-scarlet flowers 1½ to 2 inches in diameter. Fine for cutting and very useful in the border because it blooms when other perennials are scarce.

\$5.00 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

### S. *Mrs. Hegerty*

Recent introduction from Ireland. Similar to *coccinea* in every respect except the color of the flowers. These are a true, clear pink, a color that is seldom found in the garden in the fall.

\$5.00 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000



## **STREPTANTHERA CUPREA**

Brilliant new Cape bulb; foliage like tritonia; flowers open flat; brilliant orange-red with violet eye. Hardier than freesia and more vivid than sparaxis. Each bulb produces several spikes of bloom 6 to 8 inches tall in spring.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

## **TRITONIA HYALINA**

Flowers brilliant flame color with lower half of each petal colorless and transparent, on 10 to 12 inch stems in spring. Very free flowering.

\$4.50 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

## **VELTHEIMIA VIRIDIFOLIA**

Handsome Cape bulb. Forty to sixty reddish tubular flowers 1½ inches long hanging closely from the tip of a stem 15 to 18 inches tall rising from the center of a rosette of showy bright green shiny leaves 9 to 12 inches long with wavy edges. Its bold habit and beautiful foliage make it especially useful as a pot plant. Excellent in garden in mild climates and easy to grow under cool glass. Blooms in midwinter. *See cut on cover.*

35c each

\$30.00 per 100

## **WATSONIA DAZZLER**

Hybrid recently introduced from Australia. Brilliant orange red flowers on slightly curved stems 3 feet tall. In milder climates this Watsonia is practically evergreen and blooms profusely during spring and summer, with scattered blooms the rest of the year. Good for cutting and an outstanding addition to the perennial border.

\$10.00 per 100

\$75.00 per 1000

## **ZEPHYRANTHES AJAX**

A Zephyr lily. Similar to *Z. candida*, but having light yellow flowers on 6 to 8 inch stems. Blooms several times a year if allowed to dry out and then watered. Excellent for pots, rock gardens and borders.

\$4.00 per 100

\$35.00 per 1000

